Central teams to provide financial assistance to meet the natural calamity in the state;

(b) if so, how much assistance various drought relief committees have sought from the Centre; and

(c) what assistance has been provided by the Central Government to Punjab to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Based on the report of the Central Team and recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 29.35 crores has been approved for drought relief.

Complaints from producers

2108. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many feature film and T.V. serial producers have complained about injustice done to them by the Doordarshan;

(b) if so, how many complaints have been received by the Doordarshan during last one year; and

(c) who is the final authority in the Doordarshan to do justice to the complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) No complaint duly substantiated by facts has been received from the producers of feature films and T.V. serials. However, representations are occasionally received seeking review of the decisions regarding selection of TV serials and feature films. A Review Committee has been set up to look into all such appeals received against rejection of proposals for serials. Similarly, the Feature Film Selection Committee at Doordarshan has been re-constituted by including eminent non-official members in the Committee to ensure utmost objectivity in selection of film for telecast.

(c) Director General is the final authority in Doordarshan to take a decision on such complaints.

Appointment of M/s. Capital Contract Pvt. Ltd. as public relations consultant by NDDB

2109. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government Departments and other public sector units/Boards are permitted to hire private agencies for release of their Press reports and other articles; if so, what are the details of any orders on the subject; and

(b) whether Government are aware that the NDDB have employed M/s. Capital Contract Private Limited, Bombay as public relations consultant; if so, what are the details thereof and sums paid for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Instructions were issued in February, 1979, which provided that autonomous bodies of the Government and public undertakings should utilise the services of only those advertising agencies which were accredited and borne on the panel of Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity. Later, however, in December, 1985 instructions were issued dispensing with the practice of utilising the services of accredited agencies only.